

anticipates that it will announce phase two in late winter. The Government does not intend to award a cooperative agreement on the basis of this notice or to otherwise pay for the information solicited as a direct cost. The subsequent program announcement to be released in phase two will be synopsisized in both the Commerce Business Daily and the Federal Register prior to release.

Dated: November 15, 1996.

Richard E. Witmer,

Acting Chief, National Mapping Division.

[FR Doc. 96-30082 Filed 11-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

Bureau of Land Management Alaska

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

Notice for Publication; Alaska Native Claims Selection

[AA-6646-A AA-6672-A]

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that decisions to issue conveyances under the provisions of Sec. 14(a) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(a), will be issued to Akhiok-Kaguyak, Incorporated, successors in interest to Natives of Akhiok, Inc. and Kaguyak, Inc., for 6,629 acres and 3,397.07 acres, respectively. The lands involved are located on and in the vicinity of Kodiak Island, Alaska, as follows:

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 36 S., R. 28 W., T. 39 S., R. 28 W., T. 35 S., R. 29 W., T. 39 S., R. 29 W., T. 40 S., R. 29 W., T. 39 S., R. 30 W., T. 35 S., R. 31 W., T. 38 S., R. 31 W., and T. 38 S., R. 32 W.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Kodiak Daily Mirror*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 (907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until December 26, 1996 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an

appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Gary L. Cunningham,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 96-30118 Filed 11-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

[NV-060-1990-01; N64-93-001P (96-2A)]

Notice of intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the South Pipeline Mining Plan of Operations

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Cortez Gold Mines (Cortez) South Pipeline Project for mining in Lander County, Nevada, and notice of scoping period and public meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended, and to 43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 3809, the Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain Field Office (BLM) will be directing the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed expansion and development of an open pit gold mine and associated facilities, in Lander County, Nevada. The EIS will be prepared by a third party consultant and funded by the proponent, Cortez. The BLM invites comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis.

DATES: There will be two public scoping meetings hosted by the BLM in order to solicit input from the public about the South Pipeline Project. The first meeting will be held at the BLM Battle Mountain Field Office, at 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, Nevada on Tuesday evening, December 10, 1996 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The second meeting will be held at the Crescent Valley Senior Center, 6024 Ruby Way, Crescent Valley, Nevada on Wednesday evening, December 11, 1996, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The purpose of these meetings is to identify issues to be addressed in the EIS, identify viable possible alternatives, and to encourage public participation in the NEPA process. BLM representatives will present an overview of the NEPA process, public involvement, and anticipated environmental impacts resulting from the project. Cortez representatives will be summarizing the Plan of Operations. Additional briefing meetings will be held as necessary. Written comments on

the scope of the EIS will be accepted through January 31, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Scoping comments may be sent to: BLM, Battle Mountain District Manager, 50 Bastian Rd., P.O. Box 1420, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820 ATTN: Dave Davis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Davis, Project Manager, or Helen Mary Johnson, Geologist, at (702) 635-4000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Cortez has recently submitted a proposal to expand their Pipeline mining facility located in southern Crescent Valley, Lander County, Nevada. The project will consist of an expansion of the current Pipeline Gold Mine Project. The South Pipeline Expansion will consist of a new open pit and associated dewatering facilities, new haul roads, expansion of the permitted Pipeline waste rock facility, a new heap leach facility, and soil stockpiles. Existing facilities will also be used. These facilities include the permitted infiltration ponds and conveyance systems, either the Cortez or Pipeline mills (or both), existing haul roads, the Pipeline tailings/heap leach facility, the Cortez tailings facility, and ancillary facilities such as offices, shops, power lines, water lines, etc. Total disturbance for the South Pipeline Plan Amendment as currently proposed is estimated to be 3,162 acres.

Potentially significant and significant direct, indirect, cumulative and residual impacts from the proposal will be analyzed in the EIS. Significant issues to be addressed in the EIS include those relating to: surface and ground water issues, air quality, cultural resources, and social and economic values. A significant issue that will be one of the focuses of the EIS will be the formation of a pit lake or pit lakes at the end of mining. Currently two large pit lakes separated by a common highwall or one large pit lake encompassing both the Pipeline and South Pipeline pits are possible post-mining scenarios. Partial backfilling of the Pipeline open pit with material from the South Pipeline Pit will also be evaluated. Additional significant issues to be addressed may arise during the scoping process. Federal, state, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision on this plan of operation are invited to participate in the scoping process.

Dated: November 19, 1996.

Wayne King,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 96-30143 Filed 11-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P